KING IN BLACK

PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES

CHAPMAN
TIERI
VILANOVA
BEYRUTH
WHITE
ROSENBERG

MARVEL
1

FOR A FEW WEEKS, THIS CITY WAS OUR *HOME.*

NOW IT'S JUST DARKNESS. *DEATH.*

BLACK RAIN SHOWERED DOWN. IT ECLIPSED THE SUN, COVERING EVERYTHING.

CHOKING EVERYTHING.

KNULL, A *PISSED OFF* SPACE GOD, ROLLED OUT THE BLACK CARPET FOR HIS GRAND ENTRANCE ON EARTH.

AND IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT SYMBIOTES ARE...

...LOOK NO FURTHER. MONSTERS MADE OF LIVING SLIME THAT WOULD EAT YOU ALIVE. AND THEY'RE *HERE,* SEARCHING FOR A CHILD.

...DYYYLAAAAN?

...BROOOOOCK?

A BOY NAMED *BROCK.*

IT'S UP TO ME TO MAKE SURE THESE FOUR NIGHTMARES DON'T FIND HIM.

CRRRRRSH

WRONG KID. NOW THIS BOY WILL BE ALONE FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE. ORPHANED.

TOO MANY ORPHANS IN THIS WORLD.

CRRRR SSH

AAAAAAAAH!

RIOT.

AGONY.

LASHER.

NNOT DYYLAAAAN...

PHAGE.

PLEEEEASE...

HELP MEE!

OURS TO EEEEEAT--

WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?

AAACK!

A FAMILY REUNION...

THIS CHILD IS NOT FOR--

--YOU.

YOOU FORSSSAKE YOUR OWN...

...TO HELP THEM?

POOOR SSCREEEAM...

SSSOOON THERE WILL BE NOTHING LEFT TO PROTEECT.

NOTHING AT ALL.

AH, YESSSS, THERE YOU ARE.

WE KNEW IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU CAME TO EARTH.

WE CAN *FEEL HIM*, ANDI. HE'S REACHING OUT THROUGH THE SYMBIOTES.

STILL HIDING BEHIND YOUR *CHILDREN*, I SEE.

SUCH A VEXING CHILD. I WONDERED WHEN OUR PATHS MIGHT CROSS AGAIN...

TIME TO RETURN TO THE HIVE, WHERE YOU RIGHTFULLY BELONG.

TIME TO COME **HOME**, SCREAM.

JOIN USSSSSS.

YOUR HELLMARK.

SYMBIOTES HATE FIRE AND HEAT AND--

JOIN... YOU?

AND I JUST HAPPEN TO BE CURSED WITH BOTH OF THEM.

NEVER.

SO WE SAY...

EVIL

SKEEE!

...LET'S LIGHT THE &%!#@% UP.

WE HAVE TRAVELED ACROSSS THE STARS...

...THROUGH THE VOID OF SSPACE...

...AND WE HAVE BROUGHT ITS DARKNESS WITH US.

CRRNCH

THERE IS A DARKNESSS WITHIN YOU, ISN'T THERE?

YESSSS...

THIS PLANET HAS MADE YOU WEAK. YOUR HOST HAS MADE YOU WEAK. ALL OF YOU. EVERY LAST SYMBIOTE ON THIS ROCK. ADRIFT IN THE COSMOS.

HUMANITY AND ITS ILK WILL BE DEVOURED...

...STARTING WITH YOUR HOST!

SOON, SCREAM, YOU WILL BE DEVOURED TOO.

BY THE HIVE.

A THOUSAND VOICES SCREAMING ONE NAME:

KNULL.

YEEESSSSSSSSS!

SSUUCH A TASTY MORSEL... CAN FEEL ITS...

FEEL IT...

=HUULCH=

WHAT IS...

=HHUUULP=

WHAT IS HAAAAPPENING TO--

WHOOOOOOM

BURN AWAY THE BLACKNESS. INCINERATE THIS CANCER UNTIL IT'S ASH.

THE FIRE THAT BURNS BRIGHTEST COMES FROM BELOW.

THE WORLD MAY HAVE GONE DARK, SUFFOCATED BY KNULL, BUT BENEATH OUR FEET...

...HELL STILL WAITS.

AND IT BURNS...

BURNS...

BURNS.

TIME TO BRING THIS FIGHT RIGHT TO KNULL. BUT FIRST

WE PROTECT THOSE WHO CAN'T PROTECT THEMSELVES.

IT'S OKAY. WE'RE NOT GONNA HURT YOU.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, KID?

...DANNY.

I'M *ANDI.*

YOU'RE SAFE NOW, DANNY. I GOT YOU.

END.

SO LET ME ASK YA THIS... WHAT DO YA THINK OF *JAMESON?*

RAVENCROFT

OR SHOULD I SAY...THE *WERE-WARDEN?*

I DUNNO. HE SEEMS LIKE A DECENT ENOUGH GUY...WEREWOLF STUFF ASIDE.

AND HEY, THINGS HAVE DEFINITELY BEEN A LOT CALMER AROUND HERE THAN WHEN FISK WAS RUNNING THINGS, YOU KNOW?

NO SUPER VILLAINS ON STAFF, NO MASS INMATE BREAKOUTS, NO VAMPIRE MUTANT REFUGEES FROM THE '60s HOLDING THE JOINT HOSTAGE...

THAT...WAS SOMETHING, YEAH.

HEY...

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT? LOOKS LIKE IT'S HEADING THIS WAY. LIKE A PLANE. OR A...A...

WHAT THE #$%&!?

DRAGONS?! WE'VE GOTTA GET--

BOB?

SPLAAAT

FOR DAYS AND DAYS, WE HAVE WAITED. THE CULT OF KNULL.

THE EMISSARY WAS HIDDEN, AND STILL WE WAITED!

CRAC

CRAC

WAITED FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT. BUT AT LONG LAST--

THE TIME IS NOW!

GOD IS NO LONGER COMING! GOD--

UNWANTED

SWOOOSH

IS HERE.

M-M-MY LORD, KNULL...YOU HONOR ME WITH YOUR PRESENCE. I MERELY CAME TO RETRIEVE THE BODY SO THAT WE, YOUR HUMBLE SERVANTS, COULD PROPERLY PREPARE FOR YOUR ARRIVAL...

SO THAT THE CULT COULD BEGIN THE RESURRECTION PROCESS.

NO NEED, MY CHILD. DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS MAN IS? DO YOU TRULY KNOW?

HE...HE WAS CORTLAND KASADY, THE NEW WORLD'S FIRST SERIAL KILLER.

GO IS COM

OH, HE WAS MUCH MORE THAN THAT. IN ALL MY EONS OF EXISTENCE, IN ALL MY COUNTLESS TRAVELS...

...NONE SPREAD MORE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION...

NONE SPREAD MORE DARKNESS IN MY NAME...

...THAN HE DID. AND NOW, AFTER ALL THESE CENTURIES...

...HE WILL SERVE ME ONCE AGAIN IN A NEW, GREATER CAPACITY.

BLEECH

AND SO...

...HE WHO HAS GIVEN HIS BODY AND SOUL TO ME...

...I NOW GIVE UNTO HIM.

ARISE, CORTLAND KASADY!

ARISE, PLAGUE!

NOW, I'M AFRAID I MUST TAKE MY LEAVE, AS MY ATTENTION IS REQUIRED ELSEWHERE. BUT BEFORE I DO, I WILL POSE THIS QUESTION TO YOU, MY CHILD...

WHAT ARE YOU PREPARED TO GIVE TO OUR CAUSE?

WHY, ALL THAT I CAN OFFER, MY LORD. EVERYTHING THAT IS...→KAF! KAF!←

WHAT IS...→KAF! KAF!←

...FOR YOU SEE...

...ALL THAT YOU CAN OFFER IS WHAT IS REQUIRED

IT'S... GOOD... TO BE...

WHOOSH

EXCELLENT TO HEAR, MY CHILD...

CLIC CLIC CLIC

...BACK!

YOU'RE NOT GONNA BE BACK FOR LONG IF YOU DON'T **FREEZE**, WHATEVER THE HELL YOU ARE.

STEP AWAY FROM--

-KAF! KAF!-

HEH HEH. I DO SO LOVE IT WHEN THE MEAT TALKS TOUGH.

-KAF! KAF!-

-KAF! KAF!-

MY, THE PEOPLE OF THIS CENTURY ARE RATHER TASTY, AREN'T THEY?

WOOO

YOU INTO GETTING YOUR THROAT RIPPED OUT BY A *SPACE WEREWOLF?* THEN, YEAH.

I DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT THE HELL YOU--

WAIT A SEC... I DO KNOW YOU. YOU'RE CORTLAND KASADY.

BUT... HOW DO I KNOW THAT?

THE SAME WAY I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, JOHN JAMESON.

-KAF! KAF!-

THROUGH OUR CONNECTION WITH OUR LORD KNULL

IT'S HOW I KNOW THAT YOU *BETRAYED* HIM

-KAF! KAF! KAF! KAF!-

GLAD YOU'VE ALREADY GOT THE LAY OF THE LAND, FREAK SHOW...

WACK

THIS WAY YA ALREADY KNOW WHO'S ABOUT TO KICK YOUR ASS!

A WOMAN WITH A METAL ARM! TRULY THIS IS A WONDERFUL WORLD I'VE AWOKEN TO!

WELL... PERHAPS NOT SO WONDERFUL FOR YOU NOW.

WHOOOSH

-KAF! KAF!- MISTY! BE CAREFUL...-KAF!-... HIS POWERS...

HE'S... -KAF! KAF!- DRAINING OUR... -KAF! KAF!-

MORE OF YOU? AH, WOULD THAT I COULD STAY AND DRAIN EACH OF YOU TO THE BONE. BUT ALAS...

CLICK

-KAF! KAF! KAF!-

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

-KAF!- LIFE...-KAF! KAF!-

CLICK

CLICK

-KAF! KAF! KAF!-

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE AS MY LORD DEMANDS MY PRESENCE ELSEWHERE. FOR YOU SEE...

IT'S TIME I COMPLETE THE MISSION AT HAND. IT'S TIME I *AVENGED MY BLOODLINE.*

AND KILLED THE ONE CALLED *BROCK.*

I'VE SAID IT BEFORE, AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN...

I HATE THIS #$%& PLACE.

OH, BELIEVE ME, MISTY...THIS GUY? WHAT'S GOING ON OUTSIDE...?

THIS ISN'T JUST A RAVENCROFT PROBLEM.

NOTIFY OUR SUPERIORS. WE HAVE A NEW TARGET.

END?

***KNULL*, THE MALICIOUS GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES HAS LAUNCHED AN ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON EARTH, AND A FRACTURED CONTINGENT OF SUPER HEROES STANDS AS THE PLANET'S ONLY DEFENSE.**

IF THEY CAN'T STOP THE ADVANCE OF KNULL'S FORCES, EARTH WILL BECOME THE...

PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES

WHEN ANDI BENTON WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, SHE HAD NO IDEA THAT HER GYM TEACHER WAS REALLY FLASH THOMPSON, A.K.A. VENOM. AFTER A BRIEF STINT AS HIS SIDEKICK, ANDI WAS LATER TARGETED BY THE PSYCHOTIC SERIAL KILLER CARNAGE. ONLY THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF AN ORPHANED OFFSPRING OF THE VENOM SYMBIOTE DID ANDI SURVIVE, AND NOW, BONDED AS ONE, SHE AND THE SYMBIOTE PROTECT THE INNOCENT WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE AS THE CREATURE CALLED...

SCREAM

NEW YORK IS A CITY FULL OF SUPERHUMAN, EXTRATERRESTRIAL AND ORDINARY CRIMINALS. MANY ARE DEEMED FIT TO SERVE THEIR TIME IN ORDINARY PRISONS. BUT A SMALL FEW OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE'S CRIMINALS ARE EITHER TOO VIOLENT OR TOO UNSTABLE TO BE HOUSED IN STANDARD PENITENTIARIES.

IN THOSE CASES, THE GUILTY ARE SENT FOR REHABILITATION TO...

RAVENCROFT
INSTITUTE FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE

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KNULL'S CLUBHOUSE

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SEND E-MAILS TO **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM.** (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!)

WELCOME TO THE PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, FRIENDS! Assistant Editor Danny Khazem here to help guide you through the new home planet for the Symbiotes!

...Oh, they just want to DESTROY the planet?

WELL, WE CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!

We've got a lot more in store for all you Venomaniacs and symbiote hosts out there! First and foremost, though, Editor Extraordinaire Devin Lewis and I wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for picking up this issue and for joining us on this wild, galaxy-spanning ride called KING IN BLACK! We couldn't be here without the support of fans like you, so sincerely, THANK YOU!

Now, I'll give you all a moment—just a moment!—to catch your breath after that craziness and break down the madness you just witnessed! If you haven't been keeping up with all the goodies in this corner of the Marvel Universe, you're in luck! Our first story here featured one of our personal favorite characters in the symbiote world, Andi Benton, A.K.A. SCREAM!

If you're looking for more on SCREAM, ask your local retailer to find you a copy of the trade paperback collection of SCREAM: CURSE OF CARNAGE featuring six issues jam-packed with symbiote goodness brought to you by CLAY McLEOD CHAPMAN, GARRY BROWN, CHRIS MOONEYHAM, RAIN BEREDO and CORY PETIT!

But this ain't it for Andi and Scream—you can find where the symbiote-covered road takes them in MARCH in KING IN BLACK: SCREAM #1 by the Scream Team of Clay McLeod Chapman and Garry Brown!

Next, we took a stroll over to the Ravencroft Institute for the Criminally Insane, where the body of Cortland was brought back by KNULL himself! SPOOKY!

If you're not familiar with Ravencroft, be sure to check out both RUINS OF RAVENCROFT TPB and RAVENCROFT, featuring a history-spanning look at the horrors of the Marvel Universe and the heroes who try to contain them! All brought to you by FRANK TIERI, ANGEL UNZUETA, GUIU VILANOVA, GUILLERMO SANNA, STEFANO LANDINI, RACHELLE ROSENBERG and TRAVIS LANHAM!

BUT.
THAT'S.
NOT.
ALL!

Join us next month for the one and only AMERICAN KAIJU! And HOBIE BROWN—THE ORIGINAL PROWLER—has to face down symbiotes solo in the heart of Manhattan!

THEN! Well, I don't want to spoil too much, but if you're looking for what's new and upcoming in the Marvel U once the dust settles on KING IN BLACK, you'll want to keep your eyes on this series!

The hits just don't stop! Week in and week out, we'll be here keeping pace with you on all things KING IN BLACK! Hope you enjoy the ride, friends! BE GOOD, STAY SAFE AND TAKE CARE!

IN VENOM WE TRUST.

—DK
12.9.2020

NEXT:
KING IN BLACK:
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES #2

CHECKLIST

- **VENOM #32**
  REST IN PEACE.
- **RETURN OF THE VALKYRIES #1**
  THE VALKYRIES MUST SAVE THE SOUL OF THE SENTRY!
- **SPIDER-WOMAN #8**
  JESSICA DREW BREAKS BAD AS DARKNESS FALLS ON MANHATTAN!
- **SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN: KING IN BLACK #3**
  SPIDER-MAN TRAVELS THROUGH SPACE TO THE SEVERED HEAD OF A CELESTIAL, BETTER KNOWN AS KNOWHERE!
- **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #10**
  THE GUARDIANS WEREN'T FAST ENOUGH TO SAVE EARTH FROM KNULL—BUT CAN THEY SAVE THEMSELVES?

- **KING IN BLACK: GWENOM VS. CARNAGE #1**
  A BATTLE OF THE BANDS LIKE NO OTHER: GWEN STACY VS. MARY JANE WATSON!
- **KING IN BLACK: PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES #1**
  THE SYMBIOTES SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH? NOT IF SCREAM CAN HELP IT!
- **KING IN BLACK: THUNDERBOLTS #1**
  WILSON FISK, MAYOR OF NEW YORK, HAS TAKEN MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS…BY ASSEMBLING A TEAM OF VILLAINS TO SAVE NEW YORK!
- **S.W.O.R.D. #2**
  TO SAVE THE GALAXY, THEY MUST SAVE ONE OF THEIR OWN!
- **THE UNION #2**
  THE GLOBAL ASSAULT OF SYMBIOTES SPARES NO VICTIMS!

- **KING IN BLACK #3** (PICTURED)
  WHAT'S A GOD TO A KING?
- **BLACK CAT #2**
  FELICIA IS TASKED WITH SAVING DOCTOR STRANGE—WITH ANTI-VENOM?!

- **DEADPOOL #10**
  MONSTERS BEWARE—IT'S KING VS. KING FOR STATEN ISLAND!
- **KING IN BLACK: NAMOR #3**
  TIDES RISE AS NAMOR'S SECRET PAST SPILLS OVER!
- **DAREDEVIL #26**
  MATT MURDOCK AND ELEKTRA MUST EACH FACE THE DELUGE OF SYMBIOTES CONSUMING THE CITY!

ZONE